

[Rogers, Elijah P.]

OLDEST MAN IN GENESEE COUNTY
Elijah P. Robers [sic] Dies in Darien at 102 Years

Elijah P. Rogers, aged 102 years, and the oldest person in Genesee county, died Saturday in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Carter, of Darien. He was born in Lyme, Conn., on January 8, 1813, and in 1815, with his parents moved to Covington, now the town of Pavilion, in Genesee county. Mr. Rogers retained all of his faculties until the end, and was ill only three days. He was married to Mary Ann Beckwith, of Bethany, in March, 1839, moving to Darien in 1870, where his wife died in 1906.

Mr. Rogers cast his first presidential vote for Van Buren in 1836. He had often told of the earlier experiences of his life. He said that when his parents moved from Connecticut to Pavilion he was 2 years old, and that it took them six weeks to make the trip with oxen. The parents lived on this farm until their death. The father died at the age of 88, and the mother at 101. The homestead is now in the possession of his youngest brother, who two years ago made a trip around the world.

Mr. Rogers often told about the Indians in the earlier days, saying that more of them passed his father's house than white men, and that he had often gone hunting with them, saying they were good marksmen. They used the bow and arrow, and if an arrow lodged in a tree top they would dislodge it by shooting at it with another arrow. He also told of the days of fox hunting in the eastern part of Pavilion.

Batavia was the nearest market, and his mother used to ride horseback, filling the saddle bag with eggs which she would exchange for groceries. The baking at home was all done in an oven which the mother had built from stones with mud for mortar. He said the food tasted better then than it does now.

Mr. Rogers leaves, besides his daughter, one brother, Chauncey N. Rogers, of Pavilion; a sister, Mrs. Fannie Patterson, of Ohio; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The funeral will be held on Tuesday afternoon from Mrs. Carter's home, and the Rev. Harry M. Wright, of Lockport, a former pastor of the Corfu and Batavia Universalist churches, will officiate. The interment will take place in the Darien cemetery.

The Daily Journal, Medina NY, Mon. 12 Apr 1915